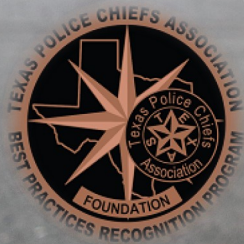


# 2021



**BEST PRACTICES  
RE-RECOGNITION**

## VICTORIA POLICE DEPARTMENT ANNUAL REPORT











# CHIEF'S MESSAGE

## Welcome to the Victoria Police Department 2021 Annual Report

On behalf of the women and men of the Victoria Police Department, I am honored to present the 2021 Annual Report. This report highlights the outstanding work accomplished during a challenging twelve months. The women and men of VPD are grateful for your unwavering support as we serve the city of Victoria during these unprecedented times. It is a privilege to lead the exemplary women and men of VPD. These officers continually demonstrate their dedication to service and building community partnerships to maintain a safe city with the quality of life we may all enjoy. The data presented in this report reflects their remarkable effort.

In 2021, Class One Crimes decreased 3.45 percent from 2020. Class Two Crimes increased by 7.56 percent compared to 2020 totals. The Victoria Police Department focused on the health and safety of the public while remaining proactive in crime reduction. VPD officers also responded to 114,694 calls for service, an increase of 22% more than calls answered in 2020.

In August 2021, the Victoria Police Department shifted to a data-driven and intelligence-based policing model. Through data analysis, VPD identifies problem areas and determines the best use of police resources. Officers are educated on current crime data and trends and focus crime-fighting efforts in the geographical area. In the short time since intelligence-led policing implementation, data shows it is successful in area crime reduction.

The women and men of the Victoria Police Department continue to show their strength and dedication to our community in a time of adversity. Our continued commitment is to provide the highest quality, professional and courteous service to our community. I'm honored to be a part of the Victoria Police Department and look forward to a safe and healthy 2022. Please take a moment and review the following information, highlighting some of the VPD's challenges and success of 2021. Again, on behalf of the men and women of the VPD, I offer sincere thanks for your commitment to building a safer Victoria.

*Chief Roberto Arredondo*



4 Time Awardee







Organization Chart

Zones of Victoria

Command Staff

Division Breakdown

NIBRS (National Incident Based Reporting System)

Crime Data

Crash Data

Performance Data

Community Involvement

Community Engagement Unit

Recruitment

Training

Recognitions

Promotions

Annual Awards

Resource Allocation

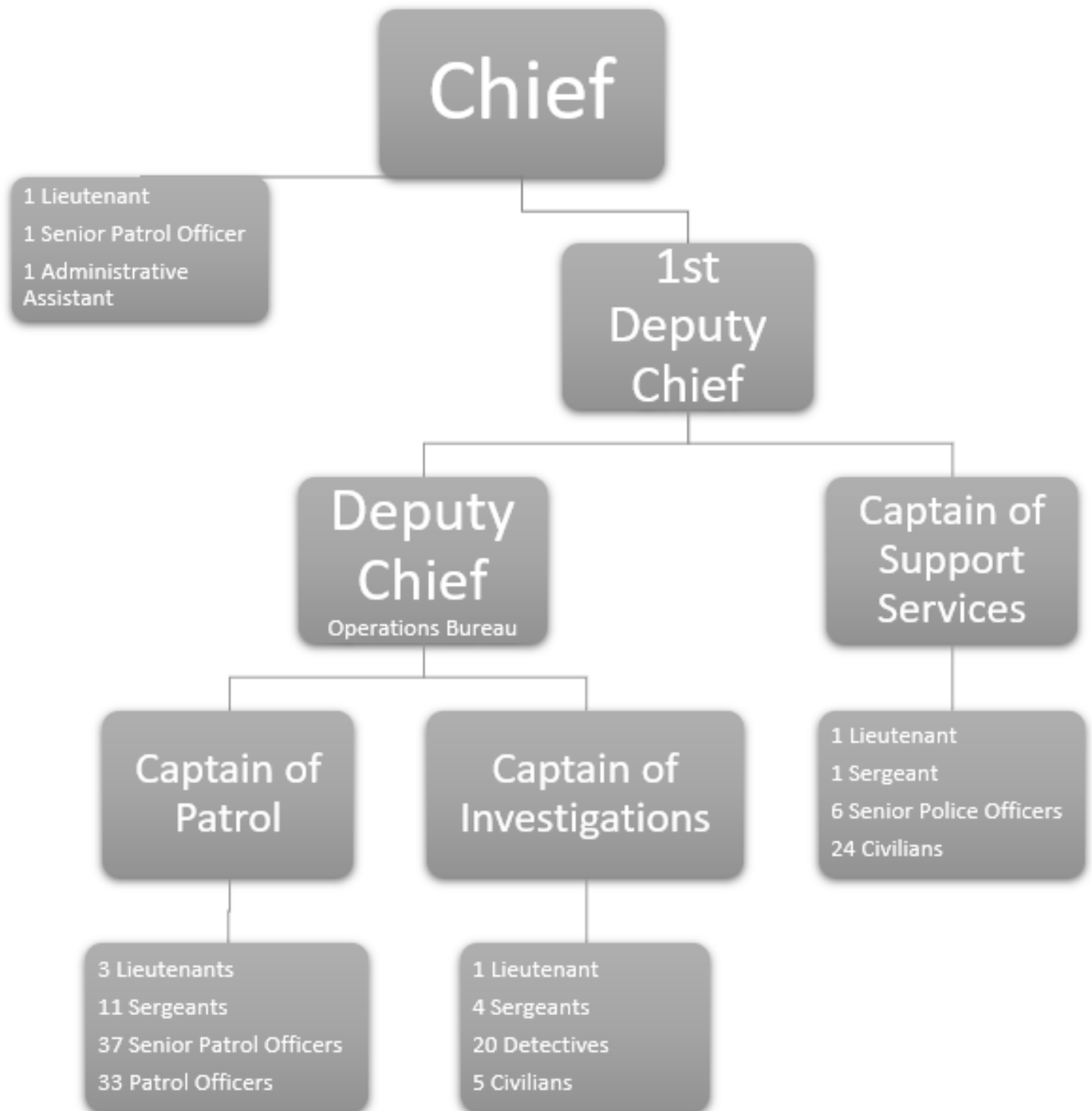
Retirements

Strategic Plan and Goals



# ORGANIZATION CHART

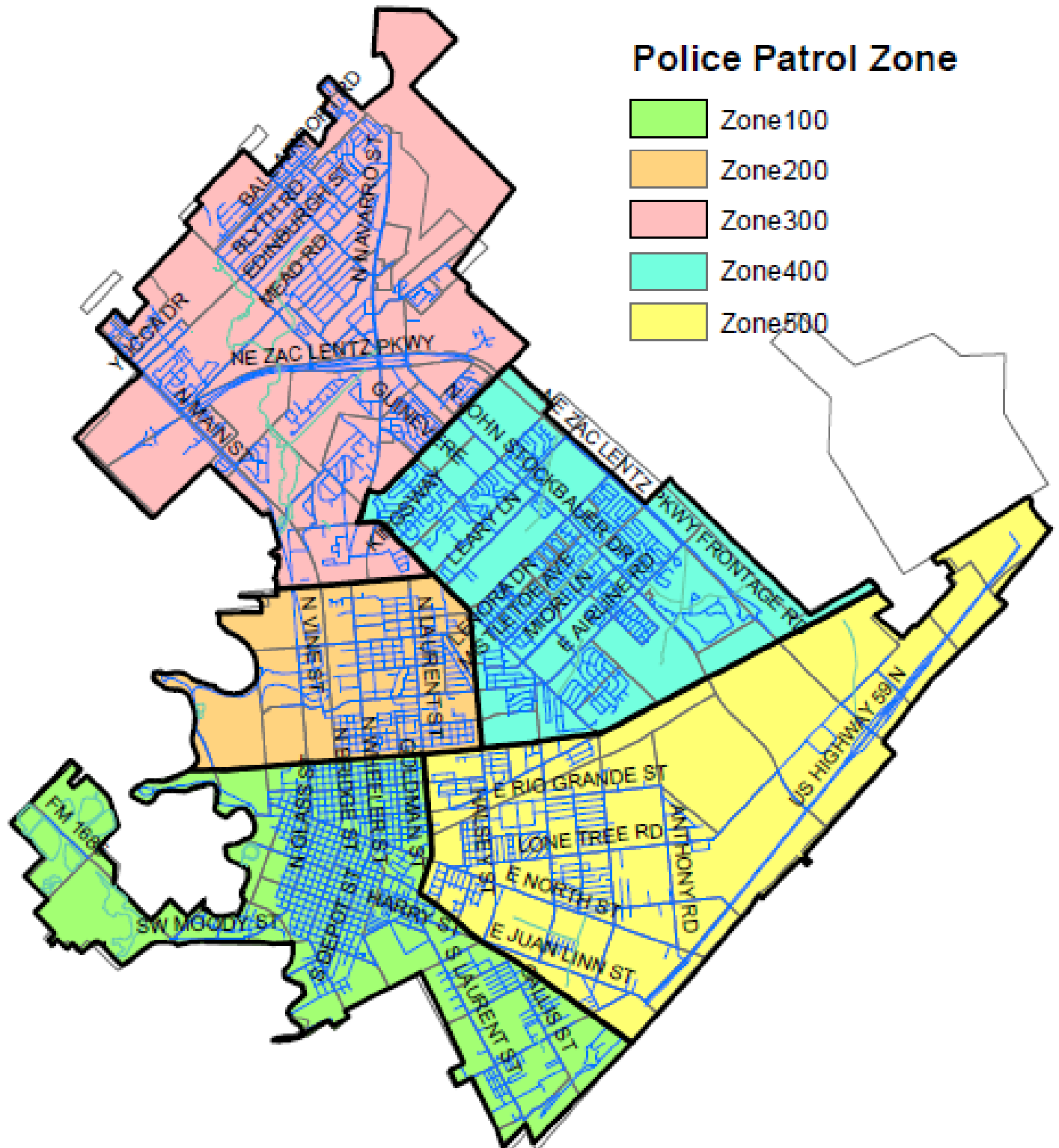
## AT A GLANCE





# ZONES OF VICTORIA

## City of Victoria





# COMMAND STAFF



Chief of Police  
Roberto Arredondo

First Deputy Chief of Police  
Mark Jameson

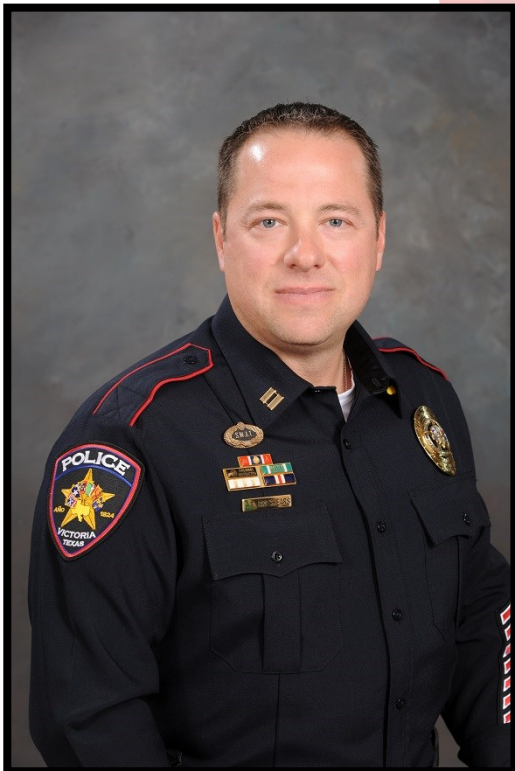


Deputy Chief of Police  
Charles Young

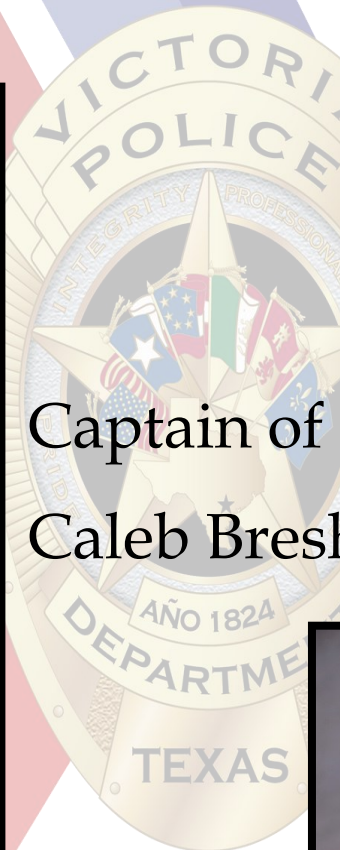


# COMMAND STAFF

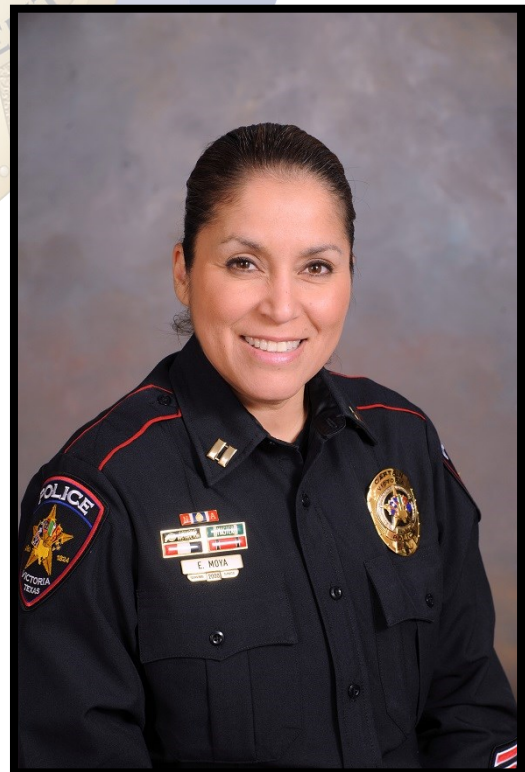
Captain of Patrol  
Kevin Sanderson



Captain of Support Services  
Caleb Breshears



Captain of Investigations  
Eline Moya





# DIVISION BREAKDOWN

The **Support Services Division** is charged with providing hiring, training, community outreach, logistical support and technical assistance to other areas of the Police Department. These units of the Police Department fall under the Support Services Division: Recruitment, Community Engagement Unit, Training Unit, Records Section, and Telecommunications Section. This division is under the supervision of a captain who has one lieutenant and one sergeant.

The **Patrol Division** is comprised of 76 officers providing police services 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. The Patrol Division is made up of Patrol (uniformed officers), Traffic Safety Unit, Mental Health Unit, K9 Unit, and the division is under the supervision of a captain. The patrol unit is divided up into Company A, B, and C. The Traffic Unit performs funeral and oversize load escorts, investigates vehicle crashes and fatality crashes, conducts traffic and DWI enforcement, performs community traffic safety education, and implements special enforcement operations based on the needs of the community. The Mental Health Unit is the liaison between the Gulf Bend Center and the VPD to provide crisis intervention and crisis prevention services throughout the community as well as supporting the patrol officers. The K9 Unit supports patrol and conducts drug interdiction in town and on the highways. The K9 unit is also part of a multi-jurisdictional HIDTA (High Intensity Drug Trafficking Area) Task Force, allowing the unit to operate outside the city when needed.

The **Investigations Division** of the Victoria Police Department is located in the Police Department building. This Division is under the supervision of a Captain who has one Lieutenant and four Sergeants under their command. The Investigations Division is responsible for the follow-up investigation of all Class I and Class II crimes assigned and provides a liaison with the various courts and the District Attorney's Office. The division includes a Crimes Against Persons Team, Property Crimes Team, Digital Forensics Unit, Special Crimes Unit (SCU), Auto Theft Task Force (MVCPA-Motor Vehicle Crime Prevention Authority, grant funded), U.S. Marshal's Service Task Force Officer (TFO), FBI Joint Terrorism Task Force Officer (TFO), Crime Scene Unit (CSU), Crime Analyst, Crime Victim's Liaison, and the Crime Stoppers Program.



# NATIONAL INCIDENT BASED REPORTING SYSTEM (NIBRS)

In reporting crime statistics to the state and federal level, the Victoria Police Department utilizes the National Incident-Based Reporting System (NIBRS). In this system, law enforcement agencies collect and submit detailed information about crime incidents and arrests.

Most local law enforcement agencies provide a monthly count of offenses and arrests for certain offense categories to their state Uniform Crime Reporting systems, which in turn report these totals to the FBI. The FBI required that all law enforcement reporting agencies transfer to NIBRS by January 2021. The Victoria Police Department implemented NIBRS in 2011. Reporting NIBRS enables our agency to collect more data elements allowing for better crime analysis.

The Victoria Police Department reports violations of criminal law as either Class I or Class II crimes. The Class I crimes reported are murder, rape, robbery, aggravated assault, burglary, theft, and motor vehicle theft. Class II crimes encompass all other offenses which include criminal mischief/vandalism, DUI, drugs/narcotics, forgery/counterfeit, fraud, liquor law violations and other miscellaneous offenses.

This report contains Victoria's preliminary crime statistics released to the FBI. Final numbers reported may vary slightly in the FBI's report, "Crime in the United States," that will be published in the Fall of 2022.





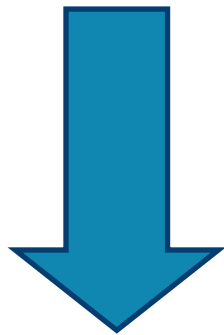
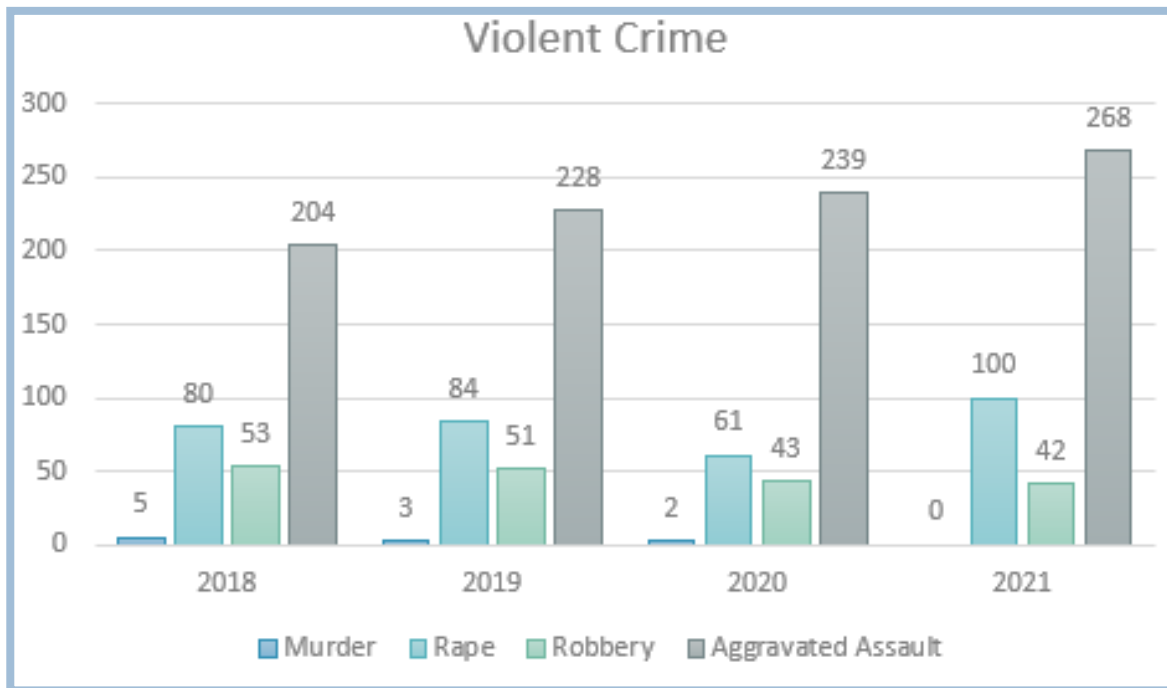
# CRIME DATA

Total Class I Crimes							
Crime Category	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	% Change from 2020
Murder	5	3	5	3	2	0	-100.00%
Rape	52	62	80	84	61	100	63.93%
Robbery	64	47	53	51	43	42	-2.33%
Aggravated Assault	169	114	204	228	239	268	12.13%
Burglary	519	599	382	384	347	288	-17.00%
Theft	1902	1730	1591	1531	1383	1321	-4.48%
MV Theft	102	113	100	122	127	102	-19.69%
Arson	13	4	3	2	4	9	125.00%
Total Class I Crimes	2826	2672	2418	2405	2206	2130	-3.45%

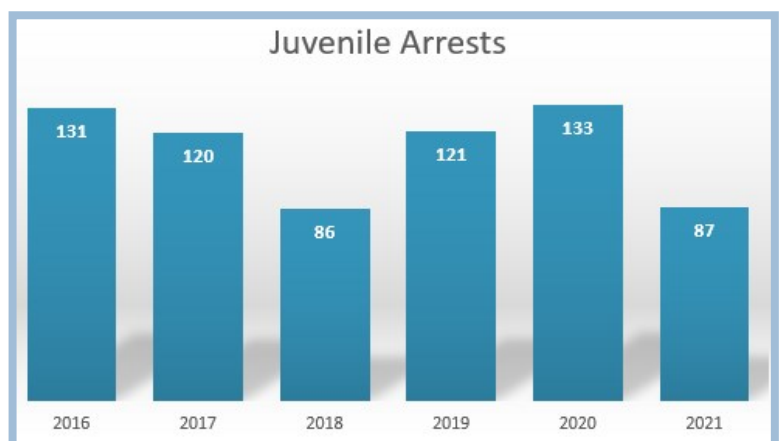
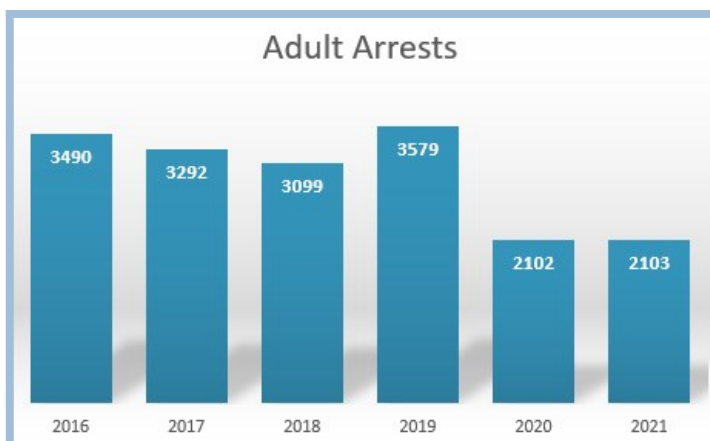
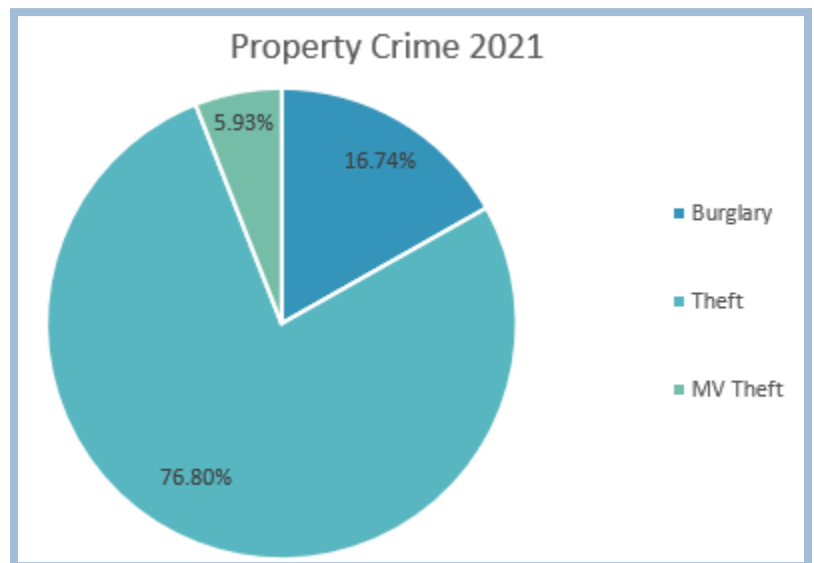
Total Class II Crimes				
Crime Category	2019	2020	2021	% Change from 2020
Criminal Mischief/Vandalism	514	561	529	-5.70%
DUI	338	256	343	33.98%
Drugs/Narcotics	1187	909	955	5.06%
Forgery/Counterfeit	106	113	89	-21.24%
Fraud	160	166	230	38.55%
Liquor Law Violatons	33	24	13	-45.83%
Runaway	197	204	172	-15.69%
Sex Offenses	56	23	18	-21.74%
Simple Assault	860	844	936	10.90%
Terroristic Threat/Intimidation	62	48	57	18.75%
Trespassing	178	228	231	1.32%
Weaons Law Violations	106	98	104	6.12%
All Other Offenses	1661	1405	1571	11.81%
Total Class II Crimes	5458	4879	5248	7.56%

*The total overall crime increase from 2020 was 4.14%*

# CRIME DATA



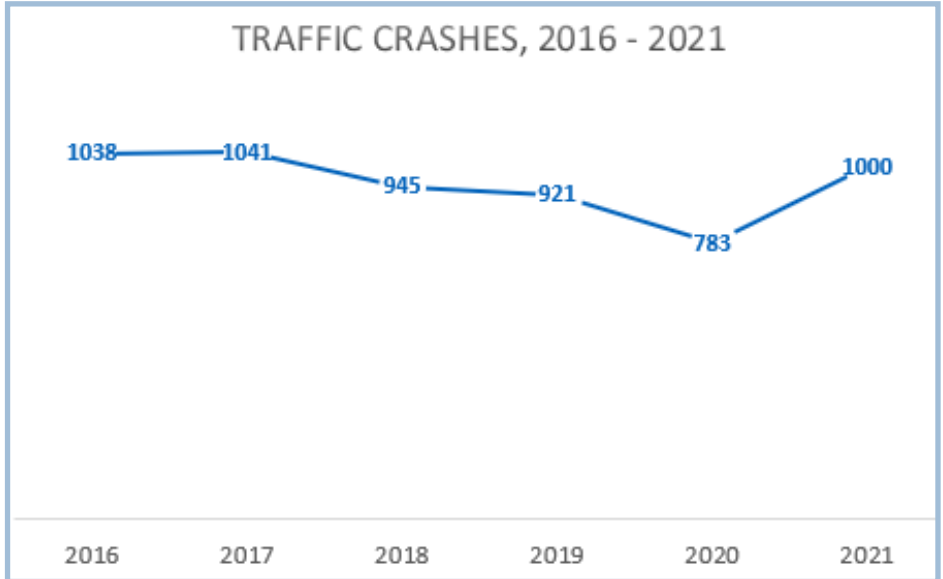
Property Crime  
Decrease 8.73%





# CRASH DATA

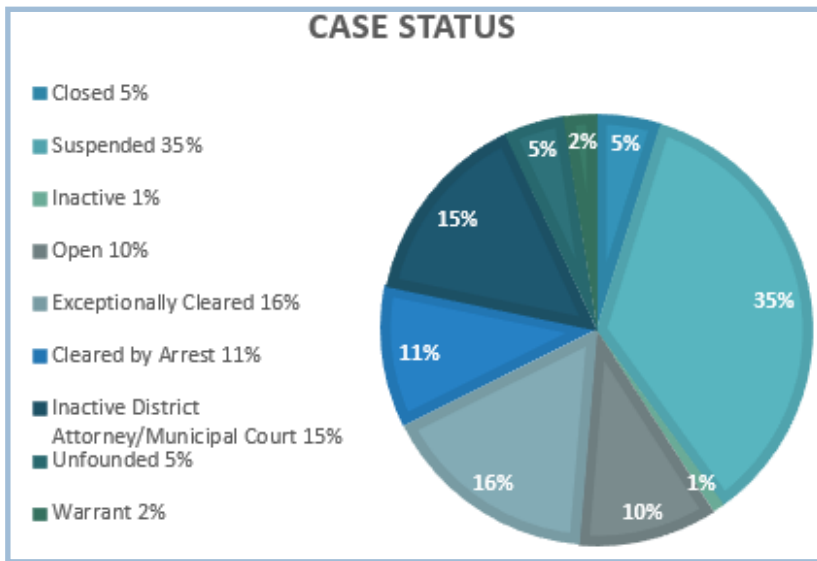
Traffic crashes showed a 27.7% increase from 2020. This increase can be attributed to the Winter Storm



Viola in February where there were 42 crashes during a 10-day period. The average number of crashes for a 10-day period in 2021 was 27 accidents. The top contributing factor for 2021 was Failed to Control Speed that made up 15.5% of the total crashes.



# PERFORMANCE DATA



The **Investigations Division** was assigned 5,243 cases for 2021. The pie chart to the left shows the case status percentages.

**Dispatch and Patrol** maintained our department's goal of Priority One response times under 7 minutes. In 2021, our average response time was 5 minutes and 30 seconds (17.54% decrease from 2020).

Our **Records Section** processed a total of 643 requests for information (17.12% increase from 2020).

There was a total of 2,246 cases presented to the District Attorney's office. Over 66% of the presented cases have been cleared.

Patrol Statistics	
Traffic Stops	16,619
Warrants Served	356
DWIs	335
Guns Recovered	66
Burglars Caught	22
Marijuana (Ounces)	> 800
Other Drugs (Grams)	> 1,200
Pills (count)	> 1,000



# COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT

The Community Engagement Unit (CEU) has been a vital part of our department for many years. In 2021, most of our community members seemed eager to get back to “normal” and began scheduling their events months in advance. Our CEU members attended over 95 events throughout the city including Back to School events, the National Night Out Kick-Off Party, Trunk or Treats, Blue Santa and dozens more.

After a four year absence, we were excited to host two community meetings to connect and share information with our citizens. Residents were able to ask questions and provide feedback to police officers and representatives from the City’s Streets and Code Enforcement divisions, and the County’s Animal Control department. The first meeting focused on neighborhoods south of Airline Road, and the second meeting focused on neighborhoods north of Airline Road.

In August, we hosted the annual National Night Out Kick-Off Party in DeLeon Plaza. This event was a huge success with an estimate of over 400 people in attendance. Local vendors shared information, kids danced in the square and, most of all, enjoyed all the bubbles. This event provided a great opportunity to kick off the busy season and interact with Victoria’s youth.

In addition to the community events, the CEU developed new partnerships throughout Victoria, including The Bridge Program at the Vine School and Tanglewood Square.

This year, we partnered with The Bridge Program at the Vine School to attend a few of their classes once a month for the full school year. This partnership has enabled our officers to educate and connect with the students while introducing the plethora of units in our department.

Through monthly meetings with business owners/managers of Tanglewood Square, our department was able to reduce overall crime in the surrounding area by nearly 11 percent.

# COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT UNIT





# RECRUITMENT

Flat Brogger traveled around our city visiting the two Texan locations, two Speedy Stop locations, 5D Steakhouse, Texas Roadhouse, Double J's Eatery, Victoria College, and University of Houston – Victoria.



VPD had a total of 44 police

officer applications and 61 sponsorship applications. Our department hired 26 police officers this year which is 73.33% higher than our 5 year average!

Year	POs Hired	TCOs Hired
2021	26	10
2020	9	4
2019	13	3
2018	14	4
2017	13	4
Totals	75	25
AVG per Year	15	5

# TRAINING

Our department had a total of 8,524 hours of training hours for our VPD personnel. There were a total of 20 different training classes provided by VPD. A few examples of these classes are Advanced Human Trafficking, Bicycle Course, and Apex.

The Training Division was excited to implement the Apex Officer Virtual Training that was gifted to our department by the 100 Club in 2020.

The Apex is state of the art training equipment that has enabled our department, regional law enforcement agencies, and the citizens of Victoria to experience virtual real life scenarios.



Cally Fromme 100 Club



SPO Joseph Felan & Mark Zafereo



Mark Zafereo & Sgt. Robert Dial







# RECOGNITIONS

**Lieutenant Ralph Buentello** and **Senior Patrol Officer Lainey Beaudoin** recently graduated from the National Honor Guard Academy in Irving, TX. The National Honor Guard Academy is dedicated to developing and elevating the ceremonial knowledge and skill level of public safety honor guard units throughout the country while reinforcing a sense of pride and compassion by upholding honor guard traditions with precise attention to detail. Lt. Buentello was the class speaker of the graduating class. The Victoria Police Honor Guard was established in 1995.



**Sergeant John DeLaRosa** graduated from the U.S. Army Officer Candidate School on April 9th and was commissioned as a second lieutenant in the Texas Army National Guard. He was assigned to the field artillery branch, where he will serve as either a platoon leader or a staff officer. DeLaRosa has been at VPD since 2014 and has served as a field training officer and as a member of the SWAT team. Before his law enforcement career, he was an aviation ordnance technician with the United States Marine Corps, and he was deployed to Afghanistan from November 2009 to 2010 in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom.

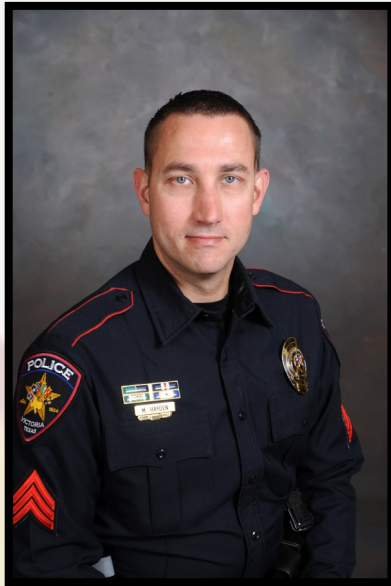


**Sergeant Jason Martin** recently graduated from the Leadership Command College - Class 90 of Law Enforcement Management Institute of Texas. To receive this certificate, candidates must have a minimum of five years with a law enforcement agency, hold a supervisory position for a minimum of two years, complete 16 hours for the Program Overview and four modules, 130 hours for Module I; 130 hours for Module II; 130 hours for Module III; and 80 hours for the Research White Paper. Sergeant Martin has been serving the Victoria community for 15 years, including six years as a sergeant and three years as a detective.

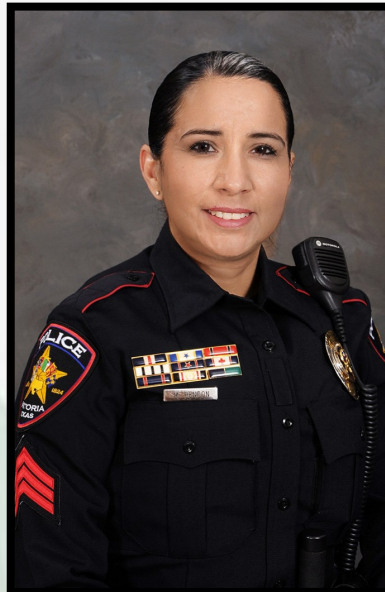




# PROMOTIONS



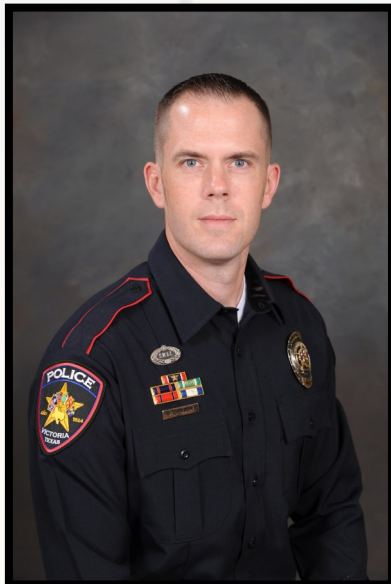
Sgt. Mark Hayden  
Promoted to  
Lieutenant of Patrol



Det. Melissa Rendon  
Promoted to Sergeant  
of Patrol



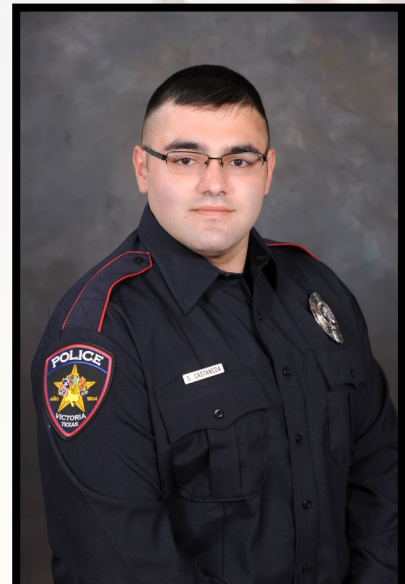
Det. Jason Stone  
Promoted to Sergeant  
of Patrol



Det. Matthew Dailey  
Promoted to Sergeant  
of Patrol



SPO Jon DeLaRosa  
Promoted to Sergeant  
of Patrol



SPO Steven Castaneda  
Promoted to Detective

# PROMOTIONS



SPO Francisco Reyes  
Promoted to Mental  
Health Peace Officer



SPO Justin Surber  
Promoted to  
Detective



SPO Elizabeth McClain  
Promoted to Detective



SPO Haile Watkins  
Promoted to  
Detective



SPO Jake Garza  
Promoted to K9  
Officer



SPO Oscar Garcia  
Promoted to K9  
Officer

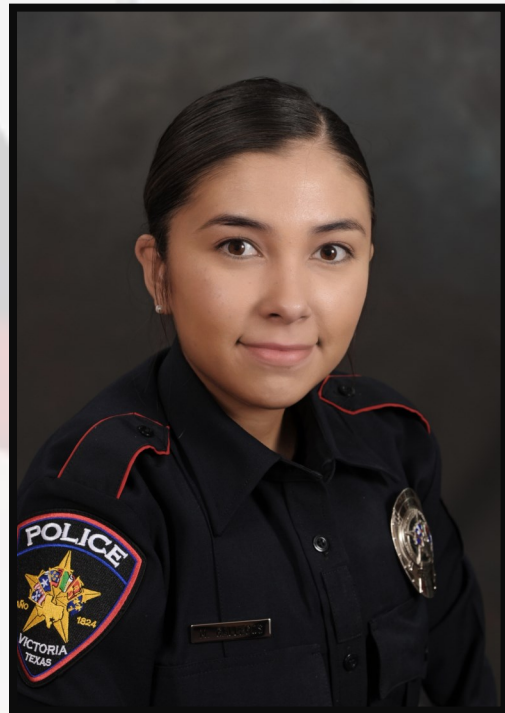


# ANNUAL AWARDS



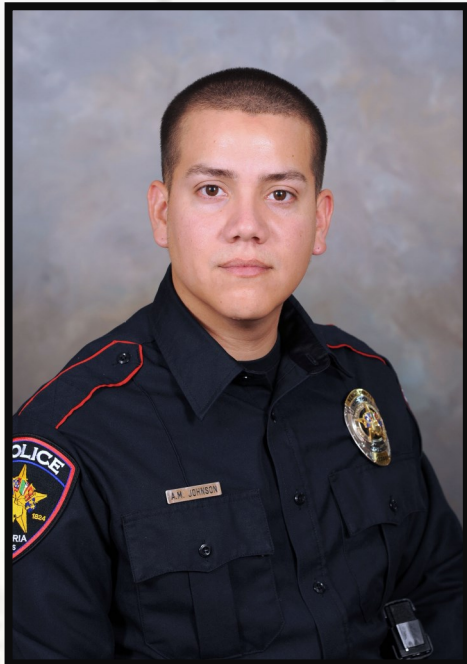
**Officer of the Year**

SPO John Turner



**Rookie of the Year**

PO Mia Gallegos



**Top Gun**

SPO Aaron Johnson

# ANNUAL AWARDS



**Supervisor of the Year**

Lt. Clay Fetters



**Civilian of the Year**

Lori Kliem

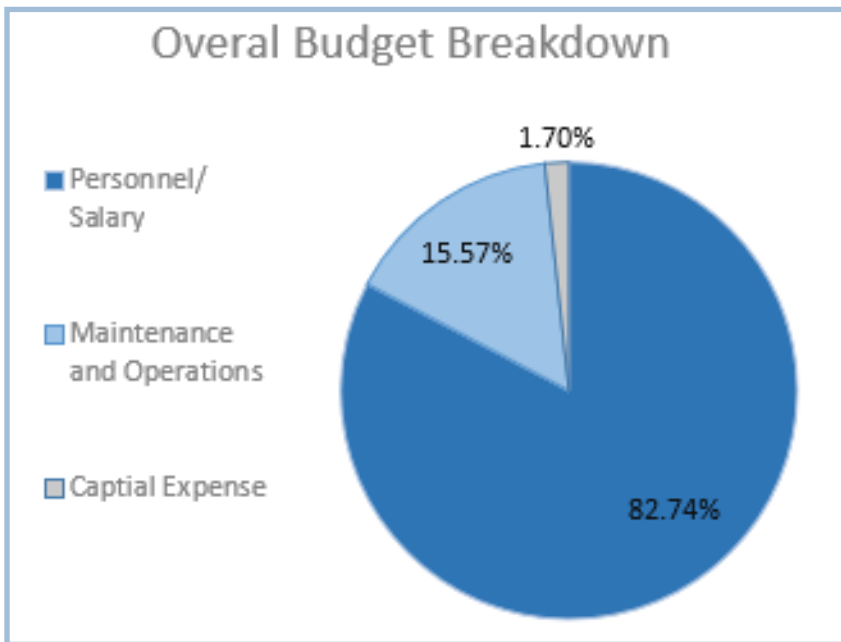


**Telecommunicator of the Year**

Sharon Reynolds



# RESOURCE ALLOCATION



VPD and Dispatch operate with a nearly \$17 million budget.

There were a total of 148 VPD employees for 2021.

The vacancy rate for the Police Department in 2021 was 10.3%.

**In an effort to be good stewards of tax payer money, we continue to seek grant opportunities.**

- ◆ Body Worn Camera Grant—\$38,000
- ◆ COPS grant—\$500,000
- ◆ JAG Grant—\$11,156
- ◆ MVCPA Grant—\$148,840
- ◆ Keating Auto Group/Victoria Dodge—Donated a 2018 Dodge Charger (\$20,000 value)
- ◆ COVID grant—\$61,568
- ◆ LPR grant—\$136,000 just awarded (Lone Star Operation grant)
- ◆ TxDOT Step grant—\$18,759.58
- ◆ District Attorney's Office (\$14,600) and Victoria Lion's Club (\$16,000) donated 2 K9's

# RETIREMENTS

**Sgt. Herschel Buck** retired from the Victoria Police Department on April 28th, after a 23-year career in law enforcement. Sergeant Buck graduated from the Victoria College Police Academy as class president and valedictorian in 1998 and began his career with the Yoakum Police Department the same year. Sergeant Buck joined the Victoria Police Department on May 7, 2001, as a patrol officer. He also served as a motor officer and acting sergeant in the Traffic Safety Unit before he was assigned to Investigations in 2015 as the sergeant for Persons Crimes and the Auto Theft Task Force.



**Kedre Parsons** has been a Telecommunications Operator with the Victoria Police Department since March 17<sup>th</sup>, 2001 and earned the Basic Telecommunicator Certificate on May 18<sup>th</sup>, 2001. Kedre's education has continued throughout her career, totaling 849 training hours and include obtaining the Master Telecommunicator Certificate on February 18<sup>th</sup>, 2014.



Kedre has been nominated for numerous commendations throughout her career, at various times being awarded the Chief's Letter of Commendation, a Certificate of Merit, a Lifesaving award, the 2018 Telecommunicator of the Year award, and also she was part of two Unit Commendations.



# LT. TATUM—RETIREMENTS



**T**atum has served VPD since 1977. He has held roles with the Patrol Division, the Investigations Division (Juvenile Unit and Digital Forensics Unit) and the Support Services Division, and he retired in charge of Company A within the Patrol Division (1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> Platoon). He was also one of the department's original field training officers. He earned his bachelor's degree in criminal justice from Southwest Texas State University in 1980 and graduated from the Law Enforcement Management Institute in 1990. Lt. Tatum served as a firearms instructor for the Civilian Police Academy and the Police Chaplain Academy and as an emergency driving instructor for the Victoria Police Department and the Victoria College Law Enforcement Academy.

# LT. TATUM—RETIREMENTS



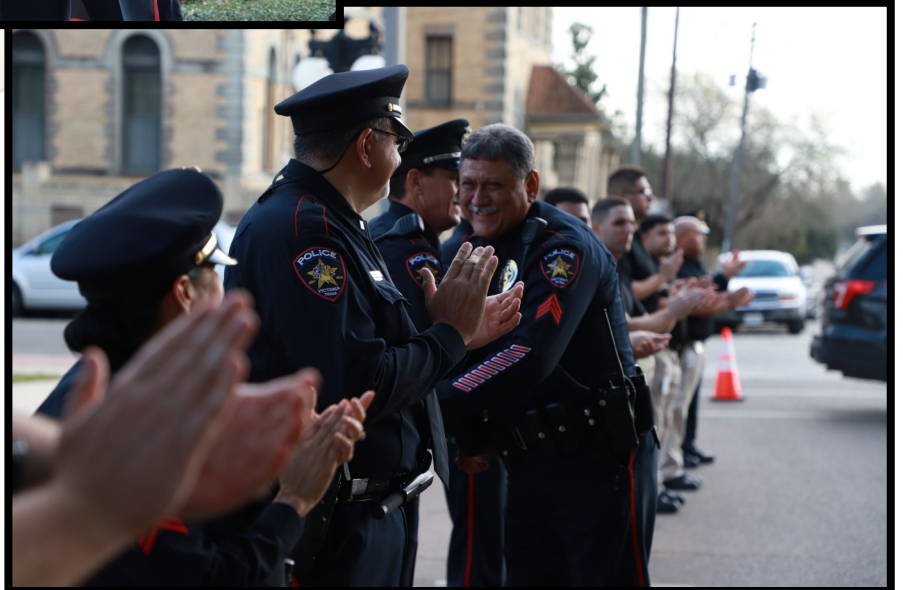


# SGT. HUERTA—RETIREMENT



**H**uerta has served VPD since 1989. He has served as a field training officer, a hostage negotiator and a patrol sergeant/traffic safety sergeant. He has earned advanced certificates in negotiation and traffic safety, including a certificate in collision reconstruction. He has also served as an instructor in the Victoria College Law Enforcement Academy's traffic law, accident investigation and radar speed enforcement certification programs as well as the police department's radar and lidar instruction program.

# SGT. HUERTA—RETIREMENTS





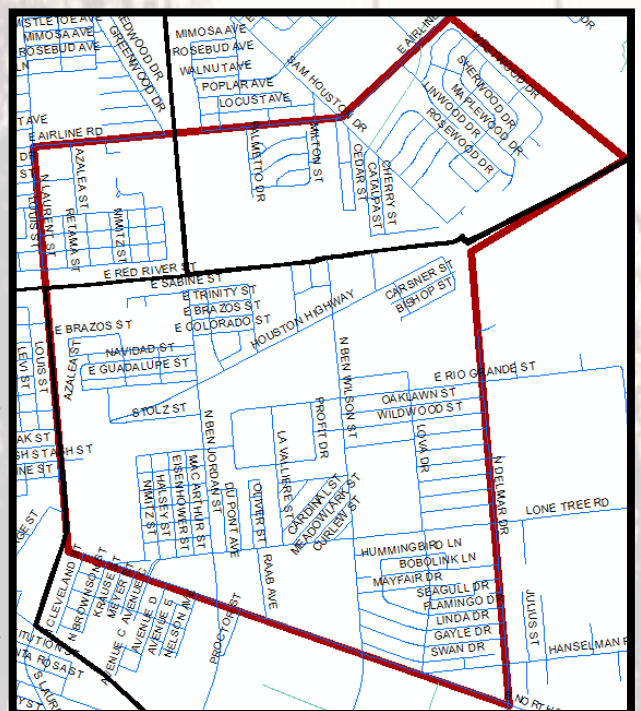
# TECHNOLOGY CATALYST

The plan to enhance the technology of the Victoria Police Department is tentatively slated for completion by the end of 2023 to early 2024. This enhanced technology will provide additional intelligence resources to use in the reduction of crime in the city of Victoria as well as the furtherance of criminal intelligence to deter illegal activities throughout the region. The technological collecting of intelligence, the efforts to prevent smuggling and trafficking of people, the transportation of drugs and illegal contraband, is the goal of every member of the Victoria Police Department. In December 2021, the VPD was awarded \$136,380 worth of equipment funded by Operation Lone Star Grant which was the catalyst to start this technology plan.

# 2021 TECH INNOVATIONS

The Benchmark Management System (BMS) was implemented in 2021 to increase department efficiencies. This digital program provides a 360° holistic view of every officer in our department and helped mitigate our personnel reporting process while collecting detailed data.

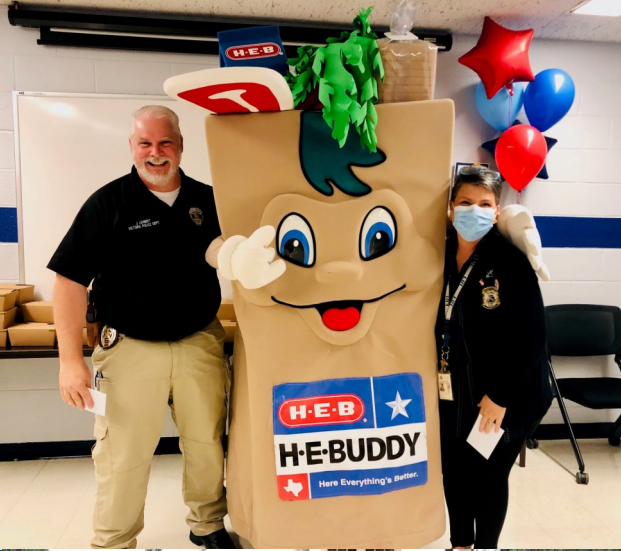
In 2021, crime data was collected for the entire city and through this broad approach, our department was able to identify an area in the city that has experienced a steady increase in crime. After the data collection and review, the Houston Highway Target Area Action Grid (TAAG) was established (map shown to the right). Using this data driven method, we were able to decrease property crime 14.58% within a three month period.



# 2022 GOALS

- ◆ Reduce overall crime by 3%
- ◆ Respond to Priority 1 Calls for service in 7 minutes or less
- ◆ Answer all incoming emergency calls within 10 seconds or less, 90% of the time
- ◆ Recruit, hire and train personnel to fill existing vacancies all while achieving an annual average vacancy rate of 6 or below
- ◆ Improve the police department's diversity
- ◆ Increase Community Engagement events that focus on community outreach and educating the public concerning crime related issues to help reduce crime and build public trust
- ◆ Increase investigation overall case clearance rate by 3%
- ◆ Reduce traffic related accidents by 3%













*Victoria—Better Together!*

